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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,869	09/29/2003	Darbha Srinivas	4062-91	5403
23117	7590	09/26/2006		
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			EXAMINER CHU, YONG LIANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1626	

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/671,869	SRINIVAS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yong Chu	1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following Groups is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-3, 7-16 (in part), and 4 are drawn to a process for the preparation of cyclic carbonates which comprises reacting an olefin or an epoxide thereof with carbon dioxide or a mixture of oxygen-containing compound and carbon dioxide, in the presence of zeolite-based catalyst and a Lewis base co-catalyst, wherein the zeolite-based catalyst is aluminosilicate of the molecular $Mn+x/n [(AlO_2)_x(SiO_2)_y] \cdot zH_2O$, classified in various subclasses of class 502 and 558.
- II. Claims 1-3, 7-16 (in part), and 5 are drawn to a process for the preparation of cyclic carbonates which comprises reacting an olefin or an epoxide thereof with carbon dioxide or a mixture of oxygen-containing compound and carbon dioxide, in the presence of zeolite-based catalyst and a Lewis base co-catalyst, wherein the zeolite-based catalyst is metallosilicate with a composition of $(TiO_2)_xSiO_2$ where $x=0$ to 0.04 , classified in various subclasses of class 502 and 558.
- III. Claims 1-3, 7-16 (in part), and 6 are drawn to a process for the preparation of cyclic carbonates which comprises reacting an olefin or an epoxide thereof with carbon dioxide or a mixture of oxygen-containing

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compound and carbon dioxide, in the presence of zeolite-based catalyst and a Lewis base co-catalyst, wherein the zeolite-based catalyst is organometallic complex consisting of transition metal ions Al, Cu, etc, , classified in various subclasses of class 502 and 558.

- IV. Claims 1-16 (in part), are drawn to a process for the preparation of cyclic carbonates which comprises reacting an olefin or an epoxide thereof with carbon dioxide or a mixture of oxygen-containing compound and carbon dioxide, in the presence of zeolite-based catalyst which is not included in Group I-III, and a Lewis base co-catalyst, classified in various subclasses of class 502 and 558.

The above groups represent general areas wherein the inventions are independent and distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II and III are distinct processes of making. Inventions are distinct if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP §806.04, MPEP §808.1). In the instant case, the different inventions cannot be used together as each process uses different starting materials, reagents, reaction conditions such as reaction temperature and reaction container, etc...

In addition, because of the plethora of classes and subclasses in each of the Groups, a serious burden is imposed on the examiner to perform a complete search of the defined areas. Therefore, because of the reasons given above, the restriction set

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forth is proper and not to restrict would impose a serious burden in the examination of this application.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

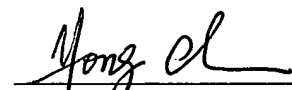
Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong Chu whose telephone number is 571-272-5759. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 3:30 pm EST.

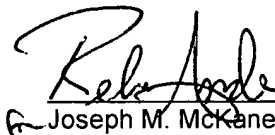
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on 571-272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yong Chiu", written over a horizontal line.

Yong Chiu, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph M. McKane", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph M. McKane
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1626